

The Rainbow Book List, now in its 15th year, is an annual annotated bibliography consisting of quality LGBTQIA+ literature intended for readers from birth to age 18. This resource guide is meant to assist librarians, educators, parents, and others to ensure that everyone from babies and children to tweens and teens have access to selecting quality books with significant content regarding inclusion of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer/Questioning, Intersex, Asexual, and all that extends throughout the Rainbow spectrum.

The 2022 Rainbow Book List compiles some of the best LGBTQIA+ titles published in the USA and Canada between July 1, 2020 and December 31, 2021. This year's committee evaluated close to 450 eligible titles and selected a total of 122 titles.

At a time when so many books are being challenged and banned, we are amazed and forever grateful to authors who continue to write these necessary stories. Each year, the committee notices that the level of diversity among book content and authorship is increasing, and this year was no different. We are thrilled to be able to provide a list of book titles that truly represents where LGBTQIA youth lives and literature are today. We hope that readers see reflections of themselves in these works and windows into the lives of others.

For the second year in a row, we have created two Top Ten lists. The Top 10 lists are repeated by age, one intended for preschool through middle grade; the other intended for teen readers. An asterisk (\*) indicates that title has been selected for one of the two Top 10 lists.

The Rainbow Book List is brought to you by the [Rainbow Round Table](#) of the American Library Association. Members of the 2022 Rainbow Book List are: Roz Posley (Chair), National Cathedral School (DC); Amanda Melilli, UNLV Teacher Development & Resources Library (NV); Caitlin Young, New Orleans Public Library (LA); Mariel Depalma, Baldwin Public Library (NY); Jessica Geiss, Stanislaus County Library (CA); Cecilia Pasqualicchio, The Ocean County Library (NJ); Katy Schorling, Colorado Department of Corrections Librarian (CO); Isaiah West, Prince Georges County Memorial Library System (MD); Hayley Morgenstern, New Orleans Public Library (LA); Caitlin Young, New Orleans Public Library (LA); Paige Harp, Missouri State Library, MO; Dawn Zimmerer, Madison County Library System (MS); Karina Andrus, Fountaindale Public Library Districts (IL); and Ashley Vassar Balay (Administrative Assistant), Columbus Metropolitan Library (OH).

## 2022 Rainbow Booklist Top Ten Titles for Young Readers



## 2022 Rainbow Booklist Top Ten Titles for Young Adults



## Picture Books Non-Fiction

**Stinson, Kathy and Melissa Cho (illustrator).** *The Bare Naked Book.* 2021. 36p. Annick Press, \$17.95 (9781773214726). Ages 3-5. **Non-fiction Picture Book.** A classic body book with updated text and illustrations from the 1986 original to reflect current, inclusive, and empowering understandings of gender, sex, and bodies.

**Dauids, Sharice, Nancy K. Mays and Joshua Mangeshig Pawis-Steckley (illustrator).** *Sharice's Big Voice: A Native Kid Becomes a Congresswoman.* 2021. HarperCollins, \$17.99 (9780062979667). Ages 4-8. **Historical Non-Fiction.** An autobiographical picture book following the journey of Sharice Dauids as she grows up, discovers her voice and campaigns to become one of the first Native American congresswomen, and the first LGBTQ representative from Kansas.

**Sanders, Rob and Robbie Cathro (illustrator).** *Two Grooms on a Cake: the story of America's first gay wedding.* 2021. 40p. Little Bee Books, \$17.99 (9781499809565). Ages 6-9. **Historical Non-Fiction.** In this telling of a little known history, we see the historic marriage between Jack Baker and Michael McConnell. Jack and Michael were married in 1971, making them the first same-sex couple in America to legally be wed. This picture book follows their struggles and triumphs while showing their love for one another.

## Picture Books Fiction

**Peter, Gareth.** *Adventures With My Daddies.* 2021. 32p. Peachtree Publishing Company, \$16.99 (9781682632819). Ages 4-8. **Picture Book.** Written in rhyming text, Adventures With My Daddies follows a young girl and her daddies going on adventures through the stories they read. Within these stories, the family can go sailing, travel to space, and even meet dinosaurs! But Daddies' favorite story is the story of how they adopted their daughter. A sweet story that explores the beauty of family in all its forms.

**\*Feder, Tyler.** *Bodies Are Cool.* 2021. 32p. Dial Books, \$17.99 (9780593112625). Ages 3-5. **Picture Book.** A rhyming celebration of body positivity featuring detailed and inclusive illustrations. Perfect for a fun and inclusive read aloud!

**Patterson, Jodie.** *Born Ready: The True Story of a Boy Named Penelope.* 2021. 40p. Crown Books for Young Readers, \$17.99 (9780593123638). Ages 4-8. **Picture Book.** Penelope knows how to show off his ninja skills, Penelope knows how to show his talent for skateboarding, but Penelope doesn't know how to show his family that he is really a boy. After acting out to be seen and heard, his Mama knows something is up. Through using his voice, Penelope is able to tell his family and the people in his life that he is a boy and he shows that he loves living as his true self.

**\*Ford, Vanessa and JR.** *Calvin.* 2021. 32p. G. P. Putnam's Book for Young Readers, \$16.99

**(9780593108673). Ages 4-8. Juvenile Fiction.** Calvin has always known he is a boy, but his family still thinks he's a girl. Before a summer trip to his grandparents, Calvin finally tells his family who he truly is, and after he is introduced to his grandparents by his true name, they spend the rest of the trip helping him find the clothing to match. Despite the support of his family, Calvin is still worried about going back to school, but when he gets there, he is happily surprised to find his new name everywhere, even being used by his friends and teachers!

**Brockington, Ryan and Isaac Webster. *Daddy and Dada*. 2021. 32p. Little, Brown Books for Young Readers, \$16.99 (9780316427029). Ages 4-8. Fiction Picture Book.** Real life couple, Ryan Brockington and Isaac Webster offer a celebration of family. The story follows their daughter Rumi as she introduces the reader to her family and explores all the beautiful ways families can be different.

**Brown, Peter. *Fred Gets Dressed*. 2021, 48p. Little, Brown Books for Young Readers, \$9.99 (9780316200646). Ages 3-6. Picture Book.** Fred loves being naked. But when he decides to play dress up in his parents closet, he realizes his dad's clothes don't fit like his mom's do. When his family discovers him, they all have fun dressing up together.

**\*Woodgate, Harry. *Grandad's Camper*. 2021. 32p. Little Bee Books, \$17.99 (9781499811933). Ages 3-6. Realistic Fiction.** A little girl's curiosity sends Grandad down memory lane by talking about all of the adventures he and Gramps went on before Gramps died. Their granddaughter hatches a plan to make grandad feel adventurous again and celebrate his husband's life.

**McNamara, Margaret. *The Little Library*. 2021. 40p. Schwartz & Wade, \$17.99 (9780525578338). Ages 4-8. Picture Book.** When the new school library opens, everyone is excited except for Jake whose embarrassed about being a slow and careful reader. Librarian Beck, the new librarian, notices Jake's attention to building, and finds him the perfect book.

**Karlsson, Adria. *My Sister Daisy*. 2021. 32p. Capstone Press, \$17.99 (9781684463848). Ages 5-7. Picture Book.** Daisy and her older sibling have always played together and been the best of friends. However when Daisy gets to kindergarten, things change when Daisy shares her real identity with her sibling.

**Stevenson, Robin and Julie McLaughlin (illustrator). *Pride Puppy*. 2021. 32p. Orca Book Publishers, \$19.95 (9781459824843). Ages 3-5. Picture Book.** A rhyming alphabet book following a young child and their family searching for their lost dog at a pride parade. Detailed illustrations on each page correspond to the letters of the alphabet.

**Haack, Daniel. *Prince & Knight: Tale of the Shadow King*. 2021. 40p. Little Bee Books, \$16.99 (9781499811216). Ages 4-8. Picture Book.** Prince and Knight are living in wedded bliss in their prosperous kingdom, when the Shadow King sends a dark fog that spreads over the land and blocks out the sun. The couple must embark on a perilous quest to defeat the Shadow King and save their Kingdom; but the Shadow King may not be who they expect.

**Rhodes-Carter, Ashley. *Sam is My Sister*. 2021. 32p. Albert Whitman & Company, \$16.99 (9780807506516). Ages 4-7. Picture Book.** Evan, Sam, and Finn love to go on imaginary adventures to the moon together. However, things change when Sam starts wearing dresses and growing out her hair. Evan and Finn learn that even though Sam is now their sister, she is still the same, adventurous Sam.

**\*Locke, Katherine and Anne Passchier (illustrator). *What Are Your Words: A Book About Pronouns*. 2021. 40p. Little, Brown Books for Young Readers, \$17.99 (9780316542067). Ages 4-8. Picture Book.** Ari uses different pronouns, so when Uncle Lior comes to visit, he always asks "what are your words?" Throughout their day we meet a whole neighborhood of people with diverse interests, characteristics, and pronouns. A celebratory introduction to the pronouns for readers of all ages.

## Juvenile Fiction

**Simon, Raphael. *The Anti-Book*. 2021. 320p. Penguin Random House Dial Books, \$17.99 (9780525552413). Ages 8-12. Fantasy.** Mickey tries to avoid most things in his life. When an ad for The Anti-Book promises to make everyone go away, he cannot resist. When just that happens, Mickey sets off on an adventure to right his wrongs and bring back the people he loves.

**\*Machais, Jules. *Both Can Be True*. 2021. 368p. Quill Tree Books, \$16.99 (9780063053892). Ages 8-12. Realistic Fiction.** Ash and Daniel both have trouble fitting into boxes. Ash is nonbinary and identifies with different genders, and Daniel is teased for being too emotional. But when they come together to help rescue a stray dog, they find affirmation and belonging.

**Van Otterloo, Ash. *Cattywampus*. 2020, 288p. Scholastic Press, \$17.99 (9781338561593). Ages 8-12. Fantasy/Magic.** Delpha McGill and Katybird Hearn are the two youngest witches in the rivaling Hearn and McGill families where magic is passed from mother to daughter. Delpha's mother has a strict no-magic rule, but when Delpha finds her family's book of hexes secreted away, she can't help herself. Katybird Hearn has her own problems. Her magic is unpredictable, and Katybird can't help but think it's related to her being intersex. When the two accidentally cast a forbidden spell, the ancestors start raising from the dead, and the two must work together to save themselves, and their town.

**Labelle, Sophie. *Ciel*. 2020, 192p. Second Story Press, \$10.95 (9781772601367). Ages 9-12. Realistic Fiction.** Ciel is an outspoken gender nonconforming kid with a YouTube channel on the verge of starting high school. New challenges emerge including a long distance relationship, a cute new kid at school, and dynamics with their best friend, Stephie, a trans girl who has decided she needs to be less visibly trans.

**\*Grehan, Meg. *The Deepest Breath*. 2021. 192p. HarperCollins Clarion Books, \$16.99 (9780358354758). Ages 8-12. Realistic Fiction.** In this in-verse chapter book, eleven year old

Stevie is learning what it means to love someone. Stevie is grasping what that means even if the person you like is not who your family or even yourself expected. In this book centered on self discovery, young readers will find gratitude for Stevie guiding them along.

**\*Forman, Gayle. *Frankie & Bug*. 2021, 288p. Aladdin, \$17.99 (9781534482531). Ages 8-12.**

**Realistic Fiction.** Bug is sure that her summer is going to be the worst. Her mom has to work all

the time, and her teenage brother refuses to take her to the beach, leaving her babysat by her upstairs neighbors Phillip and Hedvig. Bug thinks her summer might turn around when Phillip announces his nephew, Frankie, is coming to visit, but Frankie is more interested in investigating the serial killer on the loose than going to the beach. To her surprise, Bug enjoys searching for the Midnight Marauder with Frankie and the two form a deep friendship. Yet, Bug can't help wondering why Frankie hates swimming and why he came to stay with Phillip in the first place.

**Taylor, Jazz. *Meow or Never*. 2021. 256p. Scholastic Inc, \$5.39 (9781338684681). Ages 8-12.**

**Realistic Fiction.** Avery Williams loves singing, but not in front of people. While working backstage on the new school musical, Avery finds a cat and names it Phantom. Avery gets caught singing to Phantom by her crush Nic, who pushes Avery to audition and land the lead role! Will Avery's nerves keep her from succeeding, or will Phantom help Avery through her stage fright?

**McDonald, Briana. *Pepper's Rules for Secret Sleuthing*. 2020. 240p. Simon & Schusters for Young Readers, \$17.99 (9781534453432). Ages 8-12. Juvenile Fiction.** When Pepper's great aunt passes away, she travels with her dad to the estate to help settle accounts, but Pepper is convinced that her great-aunt's death was anything but natural. With her mother's detective rulebook and help from the boy next door, Pepper must figure out the mystery before it's too late.

**\*Lukoff, Kyle. *Too Bright To See*. 2021. 192p. Dial Books, \$17.99 (9780593111154). Ages 10-12. Supernatural Fiction.** It's the summer before middle school and eleven year old Bug is navigating the death of their beloved uncle alongside typical coming-of-age questions. A haunting presence in the house helps Bug ask and answer questions about his gender and identity.

## Middle Grade Fiction

**Arlow, Jake Maia. *Almost Flying*. 2021. 352p. Dial Books, \$17.99 (9780593112939). Ages 10-14. Juvenile Fiction.** Dalia's summer plans of finally getting to ride on a roller coaster are smashed when her dad announces that he's engaged and that she has to spend the summer with her future older step sister, Alexa. To make matters worse, she's also in need of a new best friend; one who isn't in such a rush to grow up. Desperate to keep her plans on track, she convinces everyone that she and the new girl on her swim team, Rani, should join Alexa on her summer road trip. As they make their way through various amusement parks, Dalia has to confront her feelings for her new family situation as well as the possibility that she may be starting to see Rani as more than just a potential best friend.

**Rivera, Lilliam. *Goldie Vance: The Hocus-Pocus Hoax*. 2021. 256p. Little, Brown Books for Young Readers, \$14.99 (9780316427593). Ages 8-12. Mystery.** In this middle-grade mystery, Goldie Vance and the rest of the gang at the Crossed Palms Resort Hotel are back in action. When the resort hosts a magic convention, Goldie is initially more interested in making sure the event doesn't interfere with her first date with her crush, Diane. But when magicians' tools start mysteriously vanishing, it's up to Goldie to crack the case!

**Sanchez, Alex. *The Greatest Superpower*. 2021. 352p. Capstone Editions, \$16.99 (9781684462780). Ages 10-13. Realistic Fiction.** Jorge Fuerte is shocked when his dad comes out as transgender. Now his parents are getting divorced and his dad is moving out and beginning to transition. Jorge's twin brother, worried about what his peers at school will think, makes Jorge promise to keep their dad's gender identity a secret from his friends. But Jorge's dad has always been his favorite person, and he's not sure he wants to keep her a secret. **Blake, Ashley Herring. *Hazel Bly and the Deep Blue Sea*. 2021. 352p. Little, Brown Young Readers, \$16.99 (9780316535458). Ages 8-12. Realistic Fiction.** Two years after Hazel Bly's Mum died in an accident, her family moves to the small town where Hazel's Mama grew up. Mama reconnects with an old friend, Claire, and Hazel meets Claire's daughter, who's obsessed with the local legend of a mermaid. Still struggling with grief and anxiety after Mum's death, can Hazel open up to a new beginning?

**\*Oshiro, Mark. *The Insiders*. 2021. 384p. HarperCollins, \$16.99 (9780063008106). Ages 8-12. Magical Realism.** Héctor Muñoz never felt different for being gay until moving to Orangevale from San Francisco. When he needs to disappear the most, a janitor's closet becomes exactly what he needs, offering a safe space, friends to relate to, and problems to solve together.

**Bailar, Schuyler. *Obie is Man Enough*. 2021. 352p. Penguin Random House/Crown Books for Young Readers, \$16.99 (9780593379462). Ages 10-12. Realistic Fiction.** Obie has always felt his best when in the water. When Obie transitioned, he knew that not everyone would be happy, but when his new teammates start to bully him, the water doesn't feel like a safe haven anymore. Luckily, he has his family, his new friends, and even his first crush there to back him up.

**\*Lucas, Chad. *Thanks a Lot, Universe*. 2021. 288p. ABRAMS/Harry N. Abrams, \$16.99 (9781419751028). Ages 10-14. Realistic Fiction.** Brian and his brother are put into foster care after their dad goes on the run from the police. Ezra has always been the popular guy. When Brian starts to pull away from his friends on the basketball team, Ezra has to decide whether or not to help even if it will show his true feelings for Brian.

**Locke, Katherie and Nicole Melleby (editor), *This is Our Rainbow: 16 Stories of Her, Him, Them and Us*. 2021. 336p. Knopf Books for Young Readers, \$16.99 (9780593303948). Ages 8-12. Anthology.** The first LGBTQIA anthology for middle grade readers featuring stories across the queer spectrum in a variety of genres including realistic fiction, fantasy, and sci-fi.



## Young Adult Nonfiction

**Freitas, Donna. *Big Questions Book of Sex & Consent*. 2020. 320p. Levine Querido, \$18.99 (9781646140183). Ages 12-18. Young Adult Non-Fiction.** This non-fiction book for young adults explores sex and consent through an inclusive lens.

**Man, Chella. *Continuum*. 2021. 64p. Penguin Random House, \$8.99 (9780593223482). Ages 12 and Up. Non Fiction.** Chella Man, a transgender activist, artist, and actor shares the importance of self love and self representation. This small pocket guide has tips for getting involved in activism and starting independent art work.

**Moen, Erika and Matthew Nolan. *Let's Talk About It*. 2021. 240p. Random House Graphic, \$17.99 (9781984893147). Ages 14-17. Non-Fiction.** This graphic novel covers a wide-range of topics from body image and relationships to safe sex and consent. Using diagrams along with a vignette style of storytelling, we see dialog between an inclusive cast of characters that are not only informative, but also give the reader examples of how to approach these topics in real life.

**Maraniss, Andrew. *Singled Out: The True Story of Glenn Burke*. 2021. 302p. Viking Books for Young Readers. \$18.99 (9780593116722). Ages 12-Up. Middle Grade Non-Fiction.** The biography of Glenn Burke, baseball's first openly gay player. The story interweaves national events in the LGBTQIA+ rights movement with Glenn Burke's life from childhood, to the major leagues and after as he struggles with HIV/AIDS.

**Baker, Leo. *Skate For Your Life*. 2021. Penguin Workshop, \$8.99 (9780593223475). Ages 12 and up. Non-Fiction.** In this autobiographical book, professional non-binary skateboarder, Leo Baker shares their story. Leo introduces readers to skateboarding history, terms, and culture, all while sharing their experience in the industry as a non-binary rider.

**Johnson, George M.. *We Are Not Broken*. 2021. 240p. Little, Brown Books for Young Readers, \$17.99 (9780759554603). Ages 14 and Up. Memoir.** George Johnson has written a heartwarming memoir that sends love to Black boy joy. Sharing the stories of 3 close family members and themselves, Johnson highlights the appreciation for the matriarch of their family.

## Young Adult Fiction

**\*Àbíké-Íyímídé, Faridah. *Ace of Spades*. 2021, 432p. Macmillan Feiwel and Friends, \$18.99 (9781250800817). Ages 14-18. Thriller Fiction.** A thriller which explores structural racism at a private school. Honor students Chiamaka and Devon find themselves the victims of an anonymous texter named Aces, who leaks private information to the entire school which threatens their status as prefects, as well as their futures.

**McSmith, Toby. *Act Cool*. 2021, 352p. Quill Tree Books, \$18.99 (9780063038561). Ages 14 and Up. Realistic Fiction.** Trans boy August Green runs away from his unaccepting parents to



pursue dreams of becoming a big-time Broadway actor in New York City. Being able to express his true self for the first time, August acts out the way he thinks people want to see him, but eventually learns to find his truth and be his authentic self.

**Johnston, E.K. *Aetherbound*. 2021. 256p. Dutton Books for Young Readers, \$17.99 (9780735231856). Ages 13-18. Science Fiction.** Pendt Harland is a girl with an unusual genetic gift, raised in harsh conditions aboard her family's interstellar freighter. Ned and Fisher Brannick are twin brothers running their family's space station. All three want to forge their own paths in life in spite of the restrictions they've grown up under, and together they hatch a plan to take their destinies into their own hands.

**Name, Sarah Van. *Any Place But Here*. 2021. 336p. Sourcebooks Fire, \$10.99 (9781492677062). Ages 14-17. Realistic Fiction.** After getting caught drinking with her best friend at a school dance, June is expelled.. Left with only the option to move to Virginia with her grandmother, June has to attend a new school and start fresh. While in Virginia, June is left to grapple with her past and how she wants to shape her future.

**Sáenz, Benjamin Alire. *Aristotle and Dante Dive Into the Waters of the world*. 2021. Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, \$19.99 (9781534496194). Ages 14 and up. Realistic Fiction.** Picking up after the events of the first book, this story follows Aristotle as he learns how to love Dante and let himself be loved in return. While struggling with his sexuality and self image, Ari finds friendship in unexpected places, learns to let go of the past, and opens himself up to those close to him. Taking place during the AIDS pandemic, Ari must learn to use his voice to assert his place in a world that doesn't always seem to want him in it.

**Stamper, Phil. *As Far As You'll Take Me*. 2021. Bloomsbury YA, \$17.99 (9781547600175). Ages 13 and up. Realistic Fiction.** Unhappy with life at home, Marty goes to live with his cousin in London. He is finally able to be openly gay for the first time in his life, without worrying about his parents disapproval. He struggles with body image and new relationships while trying to find his place in the music world as an oboist.

**Alley, Kristy Dallas. *The Ballad of Ami Miles*. 2020. Swoon Reads, \$17.99 (9781250222138). Ages 13 to 18. Science Fiction.** After a virus renders part of the population infertile, Ami finds her parents setting her up in an arranged marriage to a stranger. After running away to find her mother, she discovers that most of what she learned growing up was wrong, and learns to explore and come into her own identity.

**La Sala, Ryan. *Be Dazzled*. 2021. 336p. Sourcebooks Fire, \$17.99 (9781492682691). Ages 14-18. Realistic Fiction.** Raffy loves cosplay, but his uptight, artist mother thinks of it as a lesser artform. To prove to his mother and to himself that he has what it takes to be a professional, he enters the biggest cosplay competition of the year with his best friend. When the contest takes a turn and he is partnered with his ex, Raffy is forced to come to terms with all his self-doubt.

**Stoeve, Ray. *Between Perfect and Real*. 2021. 304p. Harry N. Abrams, \$14.79 (9781419746017). Ages 12-18. Realistic Fiction.** Dean Foster knows in his heart he is trans, while the rest of his classmates thinks he is a lesbian, including his girlfriend. When Dean lands the role of Romeo in his school play, he realizes he wants everyone to know who he really is.

**Ortiz, Amparo. *Blazewrath Games*. 2020. 368p. Macmillan/Page Street Kids, \$18.99 (9781645670797). Ages 14-17. Fantasy.** Lana has never really been a people person, but her love for dragons is unmeasured. When she gets the chance to represent her county in the Blazewrath World Cup, she quickly realizes she might've bitten off more than she can chew.

**Boteju, Tanya. *Bruised*. 2021. 336p. Simon and Schuster Books for Young Readers, \$19.99 (9781534455023). Ages 14-up. Realistic Fiction.** Daya is angry about everything, but mostly, she is angry about the death of her parents. She avoids her emotional pain by focusing instead on the bruises she gains from fearlessly throwing herself into skateboarding, but now she's starting to find that this isn't enough. A chance encounter introduces her to roller derby, and Daya sees this as an opportunity to express her anger on the track and to up her bruise count. Derby isn't what Daya thinks though, and she soon finds herself unable to ignore the pain of the past or her need to connect with others.

**Salvatore, Steven. *Can't Take That Away*. 2021. 384p. Bloomsbury YA, \$17.99 (9781547605309). Ages 12 and up. Realistic Fiction.** Carey, a genderqueer Mariah Carey obsessed diva-wannabe, is cast in their school's production of *Wicked*. When backlash against the casting decision arises, Carey and their friends must fight back against bullies, a homophobic teacher, and protest the school's discriminatory policies.

**Bayron, Kalynn. *Cinderella is Dead*. 2020. 400p. Macmillan Bloomsbury YA, \$18.99 (9781547603879). Ages 13 and Up. Fantasy/Folklore.** In this spin on the classic Cinderella story, it's 200 years later and Sophia is about to be sent to the ball to meet her suitor. For those who don't find a suitor, the girls are never heard from again. This tradition has always frustrated Sophia, and besides she would rather marry her childhood best friend, Erin. When Sophia arrives at the ball, she is determined to escape.

**Adler, Dahlia. *Cool for the Summer*. 2021. 272p. Wednesday Books, \$18.99 (9781250765826). Ages 14-18. Realistic Fiction.** Seventeen-year-old Lara has had a huge crush on football star Chase Harding for years, and when the new school year starts Chase finally seems interested in Lara. Yet, after spending a perfect summer with a girl named Jasmine, Lara finds herself not as excited about the prospect of dating Chase as she thought she would be.

**Coffindaffer, Rebecca. *Crownchasers*. 2020. 384p. HarperTeen, \$17.99 (9780062845160). Ages 13 and Up. Thriller Fiction.** Alyssa Farshot, the niece of a dying emperor, finds herself thrust into a galactic scavenger hunt for the throne. She and her witty engineer Hell Monkey must beat the other contestants to ensure that power doesn't land in the wrong hands. But outside forces start meddling, and they have more than just the other competitors to worry about.

**\*Schreier, Eliot. *The Darkness Outside Us*. 2021. 416p. Katherine Tegen Books/HarperCollins, \$17.99 (9780062888280). Ages 13 and up. Science Fiction/Romance.** In a future where humanity's hopes for survival are pinned on space exploration, the two remaining countries on Earth send representatives to answer a distress beacon. Alone in space with only their ship's operating system to guide them, Ambrose and Kodiak must learn to trust each other. When it becomes clear that there's more to their mission than meets the eye, they must work together to find out what's really going on.

**\*Oshiro, Mark. *Each of Us a Desert*. 2020. 432p. Macmillian Tor Teen, \$17.99 (9781250169211). Ages 13-18. Fantasy Fiction.** Xochitl has had no choice but to be the cuentista for her village, the one who delivers people's stories to Solis in order to relieve them of emotional burdens and avoid nightmare manifestations. After she gives the stories to Solis, she forgets them, keeping these confessions confidential, but after receiving a story that changes everything she knows about her village, Xochitl decides to hold onto it instead. Xochitl soon finds herself on a journey with a strange girl through the desert wilderness, following a set of mysterious poems in order to understand the world and her place in it.

**Deaver, Mason. *The Ghosts We Keep*. 2021, 336p. PUSH, \$18.99 (9781338593341). Ages 13-17. Realistic Fiction.** Nonbinary teen Liam Cooper's world shifts when their brother, Ethan, is killed in a hit-and-run. Liam struggles with their grief while at the same time dealing with their fading friendships, now that Liam's two best-friends are dating each other. Feeling left out, Liam turns to Marcus, Ethan's best friend since childhood only to learn that Marcus and Ethan had secrets of their own.

**Jerreat-Poole, Adan. *Girl of Hawthorn and Glass*. 2020. 328p. Dundurn Press, \$12.99 (9781459746817). Ages 15-18. Fantasy Fiction.** Eli is a deadly assassin, made by witches to hunt down and destroy ghosts in the human world, but her loyalty to her witch creator is shaken when one of her targets isn't what it seems. Not knowing what is real or who to trust, she places all hope of freedom in a group of humans determined to capture the Heart of the Coven, located in the most protected part of the witch realm. Together they travel through surreal landscapes full of magic and darkness in the hopes of uncovering the truth.

**Sharpe, Tess. *The Girls I've Been*. 2021. 368p. G.P. Putnam's Sons Books for Young Readers, \$18.99 (9780593353806). Ages 14-18. Thriller/Suspense.** The daughter of a con artist uses the skills gained from her troubled past to try to escape a bank robbery with her ex boyfriend and current girlfriend.

**\*Jaigirdar, Adiba. *Hani and Ishu's Guide to Fake Dating*. 2021. 352p. Page Street Kids, \$16.55 (9781645672579). Ages 13-18. Romance.** When Humaira "Hani" Khan's friends question her bisexuality because she's never gone out with a girl, Hani impulsively claims she does have a girlfriend--Ishita "Ishu" Dey, who's more of a casual acquaintance. To keep from being found out, Hani asks Ishu to pretend to date her, and Ishu agrees in the hopes of boosting her popularity at school. Both have something to gain from the fake relationship, but developing real feelings for each other wasn't part of the plan.

**Capetta, A. R. *The Heartbreak Bakery*. 2021, 352p. Candlewick, \$16.99 (9781536216530). Ages 14-17. Magical Realism.** Teenage baker Syd loves working at a queer bakery in Austin. However, after Syd is dumped, Syd bakes some breakup brownies that actually cause other couples to break up! Can Syd bake a batch to help Syd's relationship as well as those around Syd?

**Ahmadi, Arvin. *How It All Blew Up*. 2020, 272p. Viking Books for Young Readers, \$15.99 (9780593202890). Ages 14-17. Realistic Fiction.** Through an interrogation with U.S. custom officers high school senior Amir explains what led to him fleeing his Muslim family in America and escaping to Rome, Italy.

**Ryan, Tom. *I Hope You're Listening*. 2020, 368p. Whitman, Albert & Company, \$17.99 (9780807535080). Ages 13 - 18. Mystery.** After witnessing the kidnapping of her childhood friend, Dee devotes her life to becoming a true crime podcaster. When a new case in her hometown turns out to be linked to her past, Dee might be the only one able to solve it, but at the cost of confronting her past.

**Birch, Anna. *I Kissed Alice*. 2020, 304p. Macmillan Imprint, \$16.99 (9781250219855). Ages 14-18. Realistic Fiction.** Rhodes has always excelled at Alabama's Conservatory for the Arts and is fairly outgoing. Iliana is more reserved and still finding her artistic style. When both girls are going for the same scholarship, their rivalry intensifies; thankfully, they have their anonymous online identities to fall back on. Except what if that is compromised too?

**Lukens, F. T. *In Deeper Waters*. 2021. 320p. Margaret K. McElderry Books, \$18.99 (9781534480506). Ages 13-17. Fantasy.** Prince Tal is excited for the adventure his coming of age tour will bring. He has been confined to the palace all of his life, in fear that his magical abilities will be found out. Only two days into Tal's tour, his crew comes across a derelict burning vessel with a boy, Athlen, tied up inside. Prince Tal, tasked with interrogating Athlen, ends up freeing him with magic only for Athlen to throw himself overboard. Presuming Athlen dead, Tal is shocked to see him again at the next port village. But just as the two grow closer, Tal is kidnapped and held ransom by pirates.

**Strickland, A.M. *In the Ravenous Dark*. 2021. 400p. Macmillan/Imprint, \$18.99 (9781250776600). Ages 13-18. Fantasy.** Rován grew up hiding her bloodmage abilities from those in power, who pair bloodmages with undead guardians in order to control them. When her magic is discovered and she's brought to the palace, she finds herself drawn to two very different people: Lydea, a rebellious princess, and Ivrilos, a long-dead prince bound to Rován against her will. Facing danger and betrayal at every turn, Rován and her allies must fight against the king who controls them all in order to save not just themselves, but everything they know and love.

**McCoy, Mary. *Indestructible Object*. 2021. 336p. Simon and Schuster for Young Readers, \$18.99 (9781534485051). Ages 12 and Up. Romance Fiction.** Written by an LA public

librarian, *Indestructible Object* is a 21st century love story about self discovery and self growth. Lee loves radio and is happy with her life, until her boyfriend unexpectedly breaks up with her, she loses her job, and her parents announce their separation. Follow Lee on her journey of self discovery, identity, and belonging.

**Aleman, Daniel. *Indivisible*. 2021. 400p. Hachette/Little, Brown and Company BFYR, \$18.99 (9780759556058). Ages 14-18. Realistic Fiction.** Mateo Garcia wants to be an actor, has amazing friends, and has a loving family. When ICE agents come for Mateo's parents, his family's life comes undone, and he is left with his younger sister to pick up the pieces. As their fates hang in the balance, Mateo must decide what he wants and who he is.

**Moreland, Miel. *It Goes Like This*. 2021. 352p. Feiwel & Friends/Macmillan, \$18.99 (9781250767486). Ages 13-18. Realistic Fiction.** As members of queer pop sensation Moonlight Overthrow, Eva, Celeste, Gina, and Steph went from humble beginning to worldwide fame to a breakup that left their friendships--and Eva and Celeste's romance--shattered. When a storm devastates their hometown, the band reunites for a benefit concert. But can Eva, who's not over the breakup or her feelings for Celeste, risk opening herself up to another potential heartbreak?

**June, Jason. *Jay's Gay Agenda*. 2021. 368p. HarperCollins/HarperTeen, \$17.99 (9780063015159). Ages 14-17. Realistic Fiction.** Jay Collier has always lamented in being the only gay kid in his small town, so when his family relocates to Seattle, Jay finally feels like he can be himself. To mark this occasion, Jay creates his own gay agenda, and as he starts to complete items on the list, he realizes that life isn't always that easy.

**Brown, Jaye Robin. *The Key to You and Me*. 2021. 368p. HarperTeen, \$14.29 (9780062824585). Ages 14-17. Realistic Fiction.** Piper moves down south to train to be an Olympic horseback rider and leave behind a bad breakup. But, when Piper has anxiety over learning how to drive, she is paired up with Kat, a local teen who knows she is into girls, but fears coming out in their small southern town.

**\*Lo, Malindo. *Last Night at the Telegraph*. 2021. 416p. Dutton Books for Young Readers, \$18.99 (9780525555254). Ages 14 and Up. Historical Fiction.** The year is 1954, and Lily Hu lives with her family in San Francisco's Chinatown. With her new friend Kath, they discover a lesbian bar that opens her eyes to the world of butches and femmes. As her relationship with Kath grows she must learn how to keep the club visits and her emerging lesbian identity a secret from her family, who are already worried about the Red Scare and the government threatening their citizenship.

**\*Deonn, Tracy. *Legendborn*. 2020. 512p. Margaret K. McElderry Books, \$19.99 (9781534441606). Ages 14 and Up. Fantasy.** Tracy Deonn has written a thrilling story that follows Bree Matthews as she learns more about her magical abilities and the truth behind her mother's death. While at a residential program at UNC-Chapel Hill, Bree is introduced to a secret society called "Legendborn" and learns more than she ever thought possible.

**Ellor, ZR. *May The Best Man Win*. 2021. 384p. Roaring Brook Press, \$17.99 (9781250625120). Ages 14-18. Realistic Fiction.** Jeremy, a recently out transgender boy,

competes for Homecoming King against his ex who he dumped the summer before.

**Lee, Emery. *Meet Cute Diary*. 2021. 400p. Quill Tree Books, \$15.49 (9780063038837). Ages 14-17. Realistic Fiction.** Noah Ramirez runs a popular blog called Meet Cute Diary. There's just one problem; all the stories of trans happiness are made up. When someone exposes the blog as a work of fiction, Noah begins fake-dating Drew to save the blog. Soon Noah starts falling for Drew, and realizes falling in love in real life is different than what he had made up for his blog.

**Moon, Sarah. *Middletown*. 2021. 256p. Levine Querido, \$8.49 (9781646140428). Ages 12-18. Realistic Fiction.** Thirteen-year-old Eli and her seventeen-year-old sister are polar opposites, but when their mom must go to rehab, the sisters have to rely on each other to survive.

**McLemore, Anna-Marie. *The Mirror Season*. 2021. 320p. Feiwel & Friends, \$18.99 (9781250624123). Ages 13-18. Magical Realism.** Graciela Cristales' life is changed after she and another boy named Lock are both assaulted at the same party. Lock has no memory of the night, but Graciela does, and decides to befriend him. The assault causes Graciela to lose her powers and shards of mirrored glass begin to show up in all facets of her world, including Lock.

**Fantauzzo, Laurel Flores. *My Heart Underwater*. 2020. 320p. Quill Tree Books/HarperCollins, \$14.39 (9780062972286). Ages 14-18. Realistic Fiction.** As a Filipina American teenager growing up in Southern California, Corazon Tagubio struggles with the weight of her parents' expectations and her emerging sexuality. She finds a sense of connection with Ms. Holden, a young, sympathetic teacher, but when Cory's mom finds them kissing, Cory is abruptly sent to Manila to stay with an older half-brother she barely knows.

**Woodfolk, Ashley. *Noelle: The Mean Girl #3*. 2021. 144p. Penguin Workshop, \$15.99 (9780593096086). Ages 12 and Up. Realistic Fiction.** Flyy Girl Noelle has always been viewed as the mean girl of the group. Noelle is quick to lose patience and her temper. But once you get to know Noelle, you realize she's just trying to protect herself and the people that matter the most to her. When Noelle's father loses his job, Noelle must grow up and support her family but how can she do that and be loved?

**Garrett, Camryn. *Off The Record*. 2021. 320p. Knopf Books for Young Readers, \$17.99 (9781984829993). Ages 14-17. Realistic Fiction.** Up and coming teen journalist Josie gets the opportunity to profile rising actor, Marius Canet after winning a writing contest. Through the world wind world tour, Josie soon discovers a much bigger story that could change the trajectory of her career and her life.

**\*Fitzsimons, Isaac. *The Passing Playbook*. 2021. 304p. Penguin Random House/Dial Books, \$17.99 (9781984815408). Ages 12-17. Realistic Fiction.** Spencer's parents decide to send him to a liberal, private school after his transition. Here, he finds accepting friends and a new soccer team, but no one knows he is trans. That is until his coach is forced to bench him when Spencer's birth certificate has an 'F' on it. Will he fight it or spend the rest of the season on the sidelines?

**Gonzales, Sophie. *Perfect on Paper*. 2021. 352p. Wednesday Books, \$18.99 (9781250769787). Ages 13-18. Romance.** Darcy is great at giving relationship advice. So good that she runs Locker 89, an abandoned locker her classmates leave letters in for anonymous advice. No one knows Darcy runs Locker 89 until Alexander Brougham catches her in the act. Brougham promises not to tell anyone the truth if Darcy agrees to help him win back his ex girlfriend. Darcy does not want her true identity shared, especially since she anonymously gave less than stellar advice to her best friend and crush Brooke, and agrees to help Brougham. But as Darcy and Brougham spend more time together, Darcy starts crushing on both Brougham and Brooke.

**Murphy, Julie. *Pumpkin*. 2021. 336p. HarperCollins Publishers, \$17.99 (9780062880451). Ages 13-17. Realistic Fiction.** Fat and openly gay Waylon Brewer becomes an unlikely candidate for prom queen in his small Texas hometown when his audition tape for a popular drag performance show leaks.

**Johnson, Leah. *Rise To The Sun*. 2021. 336p. Scholastic Inc., \$17.99 (9781338662238). Ages 14-18. Romance.** Two very different girls, one a hopeless romantic, one wrapped in grief, meet at a music festival where their love story unfolds.

**Borinsky, Agnes. *Sasha Masha*. 2020. 240p. Farrar, Straus, and Giroux (BYR), \$17.99 (9780374310806). Ages 14-18. Realistic Fiction.** Alex doesn't feel right in his body and seems out of place everywhere he goes. Then, out of curiosity, Alex attends a group for LGBTQ+ teens. Here, he meets Andre, a young gay teen who quickly becomes a great friend and opens up a whole new world to Alex. In this new and supportive group of friends, Alex starts going by a new name: Sasha Masha. Through internal and external struggles, Alex realizes that Sasha Masha is the key to living as her authentic self.

**Quindlen, Kelly. *She Drives Me Crazy*. 2021. 304p. Macmillan/Roaring Brook Press, \$17.99 (9781250209153). Ages 13-18. Romance.** High school athlete Scottie and head cheerleader Irene don't get along--which makes it extra awkward when they get into a fender-bender and end up carpooling together until Irene's car is fixed. Things only get more complicated when Scottie comes up with a fake dating scheme to get back at her ex, and bribes Irene into playing along.

**Heard, Wendy. *She's Too Pretty to Burn*. 2021. 336p. Macmillan Henry Holt and Co. BYR, \$18.99 (9781250246752). Ages 14-18. Thriller Fiction.** Veronica and Nico, artists and best friends, are incredibly bored one summer, until they meet Mick, the perfect muse. Mick is a star swimmer who hates having her photo taken, despite her model mother desperately wanting her to do a mother-daughter photo shoot to pay the bills. Mick and Veronica fall hard and fast in love, and Mick gets mixed up in the beautiful and dangerous world of subversive performance art, where fires get out of control and people are mysteriously killed.

**Williams-Garcia, Rita. *A Sitting in St. James*. 2021. 480p. HarperCollins/Quill Tree Books, \$17.99 (9780062367297). Ages 16-17. Historical Fiction.** Exploring the multigenerational



history of a plantation, the family that lived there, and the many enslaved people that were forced to work its land, this brutal novel sheds light on the generational trauma caused by slavery and racism.

**Dugan, Jennifer. *Some Girls Do*. 2021. Penguin G.P. Putnam's Books For Young Readers, \$17.99 (9780593112533). Ages 12 and Up. Realistic Fiction.** Ruby tries to live up to her mother's lost dreams of competing in beauty pageants, when all she wants to do is fix up cars in her ex-stepfather's shop. Track runner Morgan switches schools after coming out as gay, and wants justice for the discrimination she's had to endure. They are drawn together when Ruby accidentally hits Morgan with her car. While they start as tense adversaries, Ruby eventually finds herself having feelings she didn't realize were possible for other girls, while Morgan just wants to live out and be proud without any secrets.

**Sass, Adam. *Surrender Your Sons*. 2020. 424p. Flux, \$17.99 (9781635830613). Ages 14-18. Thrillers Fiction.** Connor Major always mixed up into the wrong situations. When he comes out to his mother, she sends him to a hidden island Conversion Therapy camp. When Connor realizes there is more than meets the eye at the Camp, he knows no one is safe.

**Douglass, Ryan. *The Taking of Jake Livingston*. 2021. 256p. G.P. Putnam's Sons Books for Young Readers, \$13.10 (9781984812537). Ages 12-17. Paranormal.** Sixteen-year-old Jake Livingston is a medium who can see ghosts playing out their last moments on loop. He's also one of the few black students at his prep school. Things seem to be looking up when another black student named Allister comes into Jake's life. However, a vengeful ghost is determined to come back to the living to continue his acts of violence, and he has his sights set on using Jake.

**Coles, Jay. *Things We Couldn't Say*. 2021. 320p. Scholastic Press, \$15.99 (9781338734188). Ages 12 and up. Realistic Fiction.** Gio's mom left him and the family when he was nine. Now in high school, Gio's mom is suddenly back in his life. While navigating his mom's return, he must also navigate his budding friendship with David, a new guy on the basketball team. Are they just friends or something more?

**\*Bayron, Kalynn. *This Poison Heart*. 2021. 384p. Macmillan Bloomsbury YA, \$18.99 (9781547603909). Ages 13 and up. Fantasy.** Briseis has always known that she could magically grow plants. Her childhood was always out of control because plants grew towards her. When an aunt from her birth mother dies and leaves Briseis her family house, Briseis is thrown into a world she knew nothing about. She always yearned to understand herself, but she never thought this was where she was heading.

**Woodfolk, Ashley. *Tobyn; The It Girl #4*. 2021. 144p. Penguin Workshop, \$15.99 (9780593096109). Ages 12 and Up. Realistic Fiction.** In the 4th Flyy Girls books series, readers follow Tobyn. Tobyn has always been the girl of the group that wanted to hang back and play music instead of going to college. So, when there is a big break for Tobyn to join a music group, all eyes fall on her, including her mother's. Unfortunately, not everyone thinks Tobyn has what it takes.

**Rubin, Julia Lynn. *Trouble Girls*. 2021. 272p. Wednesday Books, \$18.99 (9781250757241). Ages 14-18. Realistic Fiction.** A single night gone wrong turns Trixie and Lux into part of a movement as they make their grand escape to the West coast.

**Latos, Alexandra. *Under Shifting Stars*. 2020. 272p. Clarion Books, \$17.99 (9780358067757). Ages 12-17. Realistic Fiction.** Twins Clare and Audrey have been growing apart for a while, but the rift between them grows even larger when their older brother is killed in a car accident. Audrey blames herself for the accident, and she thinks Clare does too. Clare meanwhile, is drifting away from her friends and family, and discovering her gender identity.

**Sanchez, Jasper. *The (Un)Popular Vote*. 2021. 416p. Katherine Tegen Books, \$18.99 (9780063025769). Ages 14-17. Realistic Fiction.** Mark watches C-SPAN religiously in an effort to catch a glimpse of his father, a Democratic Congressman from California who still wants to believe he has a daughter and not a son. Mark makes a pact with his dad-- he can go on T and transition if he keeps a low profile, pretends to be a cis man at his new school, and doesn't tell anyone his dad is in Congress. But when a new friend gets assaulted at school for being gay, and the popular vote for class president was a bystander, Mark decides to throw his hat in the race.

**Jackson, Kosoko. *Yesterday Is History*. 2021. Sourcebooks Fire, \$17.99 (9781492694342). Ages 14-18. Science Fiction.** After an organ transplant gone right, Andre finds himself able to time travel. This unexpected ability causes Andre to become entangled in a love triangle with a boy from 1969 and the brother of his organ donor.

**Khan, Sabina. *Zara Hossain is Here*. 2021. Scholastic Press, \$18.99 (9781338580877). Ages 14-18. Realistic Fiction.** Racism and bullying in Zara's Texas town leads to life altering consequences for herself and her family endangering their citizenship and lives.

## Graphic Nonfiction

**Burgess, Rebecca. *How to Be Ace*. 2020, 208p. Jessica Kingsley Publishers, \$17.83 (9781787752153). Ages 12 and up. Realistic Fiction.** This graphic novel memoir follows Rebecca as she navigates her asexual identity throughout her youth.

## Graphic Fiction

**McGane, Madeline. *The Accursed Vampire*. 2021, 176p. Quill Tree Books, \$14.73 (9780062954343). Ages 10-12. Graphic Fantasy.** Graphic Novel about a vampire child named Dragoslavia, who was cursed by a witch. Dragoslavia must complete the witches task with their immortal friends or risk being turned into worms.

**Frasier, Crystal. *Cheer Up: Love and Pom-Poms*. 2021, 128p. Oni Press, \$14.99 (9781620109557). Ages 12 and up. Graphic novel.** Annie is anti-social, blunt, and seems determined to be unlikable. Bebe, a trans girl, is a people pleaser, kind, and tries to be as amiable

as possible to keep her parents happy enough to continue to support her transition. The two former friends couldn't be more different. But when Annie is pressured to join Bebe's cheerleading squad in an effort to round out her college application, the two girls reconnect and find that they may want more than to just rekindle their friendship.

**\*Ostertag, Molly Knox. *The Girl from the Sea*. 2021, 256p. Scholastic/Graphix, \$14.99 (9781338540574). Ages 12-18. Fantasy.** In this beautiful graphic novel, Morgan keeps lots of secrets. Morgan hates where she lives, she wants to kiss a girl, and she is falling in love with Keltie. The thing about secrets is that they never stay hidden for long, and they are going to surface even if the girls don't want them to.

**Oseman, Alice. *Heartstopper Volume 3*. 2021. 384p. Graphix/Scholastic, \$14.99 (9781338617528). Ages 13-17. Realistic Fiction.** Charlie and Nick have confessed their feelings and Nick has come out to his mom, but now the two must tackle coming out to their friends, especially as their school trip to Paris makes keeping their relationship a secret even more difficult.

**Oseman, Alice. *Heartstopper Volume 4*. 2021. 384p. Graphix/Scholastic, \$14.99 (9781338617559). Ages 13-17. Realistic Fiction.** Even though their relationship is going great, Charlie still finds himself nervous to tell Nick "I love you." Nick also has a lot on his mind between telling his dad he's bisexual and worrying that Charlie may have an eating disorder.

**Tamaki, Mariko. *I am Not Starfire*. 2021. 184p. DC Comics, \$16.99 (9781779501264). Ages 13 and Up. Science Fiction.** Life is not normal for Mandy, the daughter of the ultra-famous superhero Starfire. She does her best to stay out of the spotlight and avoid prying questions from her classmates about her mom, and questions from her mom about college plans. When an enemy from Starfire's past comes and threatens them, Mandy must learn to find her own power.

**Cooke, Stephanie. *Paranorthern: And the Chaos Bunny A-hop-calypse*. 2021. 240p. Clarion Books, \$12.99 (9780358169000). Ages 8-12. Graphic Fiction.** A young witch named Abby accidentally opens a portal that leads to the supernatural town of North Haven being overrun by Chaos Bunnies who are set on bringing on the a-hop-ocalypse. It is up to Abby, a wolf-girl, a ghost, and a pumpkinhead to save their beloved town from the adorable vermin.

**Tokuda-Hall, Maggie and Lisa Stearle (illustrator). *Squad*. 2021. 224p. HarperCollins/Greenwillow Books, \$14.99 (9780062943149). Ages 14-17. Paranormal.** Becca starts a new school and is immediately accepted by the "it" girls, but when the full moon hits, she learns her new friends are werewolves that feed on predatory boys that prey on girls. Life as a werewolf is great until police start looking for a serial killer.

**O'Neill, K. *Tea Dragon Tapestry*. 2021. 128p. Oni Press, \$21.99 (9781620107744). Ages 9-12. Graphic Fiction.** To earn an apprenticeship with the master blacksmith, Greta must work hard to create a piece that represents her level of skill and creativity. Meanwhile, Minnette receives a tapestry from her former monastery, which causes her to think about who she was, who she is,

and who she wants to be.

**Maggs, Sam and Kendra Wells. *Tell No Tales: Pirates of the Southern Seas*. 2021. 160p. ABRAMS, \$21.99 (9781419739804). Ages 10-14. Graphic Fiction.** Based on the historical exploits of real life queer pirates comes the tale of Anne Bonny and her misfit crew of pirates on the run from their pasts, escaping from heists, and prophetic dreams of a troubling future.

**Tynion, James. *Wynd, Flight of the Prince*. 2021. 256p. BOOM! Box, \$14.99 (9781684156320). Science Fiction.** Wynd has magical blood, but just wants to live a normal life in Pipe City, the last human city in the world. When the king hires the Bandaged Man to hunt down anyone magical, Wynd finds himself running away for his life with his best friend, the Prince, and a handsome gardener.

## Manga

**Iruma, Hitoma. *Adachi and Shimamura, vol 1-2*. 2021, 176p. Yen Press, \$13.00 (9781975320034). Ages 13 and Up. Romance.** Adachi is a high school student who has very little interest in going to school. Avoiding class one day, she meets Shimamura, another serial class skipper, and the two of them begin to regularly meet on the second floor of the gym. Adachi quickly finds herself falling for Shimamura, but how does Shimamura feel about Adachi?

**\*Gaku, Keito. *Boys Run the Riot, vol 1 -3*. 2021. 240p. Kodansha Comics, \$12.99 (9781646512485). Realistic Fiction.** Ryo spends his high school days dreading interacting with his classmates and being forced to wear the girl version of his school uniform. The only time he feels like himself is when he can wear the clothes he loves and is accepted as a boy. When the new kid Jin shows up in his class, Ryo thinks he's just another tough bully to avoid, but he soon finds out that they both share a love for fashion that let's people break free of societal expectations and allows them to represent their true selves. Together, they decide to start their own clothing brand, and Ryo is able to find a place where his trans identity is accepted and celebrated.

**Mika. *I Cannot Reach You Vol 1*. 2021. 160p. Yen Press, \$13.00 (9781975319472). Ages 13 and Up. Realistic Fiction.** Kakeru struggles at school but makes friends easily while his childhood best friend, Yamato, is the opposite. Unwilling to accept that Yamato would ever be interested in the two of them dating, Kakeru tries his best to help Yamato make friends, possibly even a girlfriend. Neither Yamato nor Kakeru struggle to share their true feelings with each other in the first volume of this high school romance manga series.

**Okura. *I Think Our Son is Gay 01*. 2021. 128p. Square Enix Manga, \$12.99 (9781646090921). Ages 13 and Up. Realistic Fiction.** In this heartwarming slice of life manga, a mother of two observes her two children growing into themselves. Her eldest is most likely gay, and it's hilarious witnessing his own self discovery.

**Takeshima, Eku. *Whisper Me a Love Song Vol 1 - 3*. 2020. 176p. Kodansha Comics, \$12.99 (9781646511150). Romance.** On her first day of highschool, Himari sees Yori perform in a band and confesses to Yori that she fell in love with her at first sight. Yori soon realizes that she's developing feelings for Himari as well, but there's one problem; Himari's feelings were of admiration for Yori as a musician and not feelings of romantic love. Undeterred, Yori puts her hopes in her musical abilities to win Himari's heart.

**Kujira. *A Witch's Love at the End of the World, Vol. 1*. 2020. Yen Press, \$13.00 (9781975318031). Ages 13-18. Fantasy.** Ever since witches were driven into the shadows by persecution, they have trained in secret, preparing to someday take revenge. At a mysterious boarding school for witches in training, magical prodigy Alice meets Mari, who struggles to find her power. The two form a deep connection--but when witches fall in love, they lose their magic!